I'd like to visit Strasbourg...
A trip on a riverboat can be a great way to see the town, from the cathedral to the European institutions, not forgetting the “Petite France” district. This romantic trip is guaranteed to arouse your curiosity, and leave you wanting to explore the rest of the town on foot, including Petite France, a picturesque area with some magnificent wood framed houses, once inhabited by tanners and millers, the princes' and bourgeois' buildings dating from the 18th century, or the superb “Orangerie” park, which the storks have made their home. And how could anyone visit Strasbourg without visiting its cathedral, with its stained-glass windows, statues, organ, and its famous Astronomical Clock?

Discovering Strasbourg is a real pleasure. With its superb “Grande Île” (Great Island) which is listed as World Heritage by UNESCO, the town has an unmistakable atmosphere all its own, whatever the season. The historical “Petite France” district, the narrow streets, the cathedral towering over the city from its 142m in height, the banks of the river Ill or the friendly winstubs where a wealth of Alsatian specialities are waiting to be discovered are all pleasures to be shared during your visit to Strasbourg.

A breathtaking building, the cathedral literally dominates the picturesque city below it and is well worth a visit.
Diverse yet complementary, Strasbourg’s museums are certain to delight even the most demanding art lovers.

Whatever your interests, discovering Strasbourg’s museums is a real treat. These include the Rohan Palace in which exhibits portraying thousands of years of Alsatian history at the Archaeological Museum are just a stone’s throw from the 18th century collections of the Museum of Decorative Art, and from a large collection of European paintings at the Museum of Fine Arts. Don’t miss the Musée de l’Œuvre Notre-Dame, bordered by a small Gothic garden, including masterpieces of medieval sculpture, the Alsatian Museum and its popular traditions, the Historical Museum with its scale model of 1727, the Tami Ungerer Museum – International Centre for Illustration, the Zoological Museum, the Modern and Contemporary Art Museum whose works span the period from 1870 to the present or finally, the Aubette, with its decors created at the end of the 1920s by avant-garde artists.

Strasbourg also has its unusual side, including its Art Nouveau houses and the astonishing Egyptian façade to be seen in rue du Général Rapp, the Botanical Garden and its superb greenhouses, the town’s popular statues including the “Gänseliesel” (the Goose Herd) in the Orangerie park or the strange monster’s head that all the children want to stroke at the cathedral, not forgetting of course the German imperial quarter (or “Neustadt”) and its impressive buildings erected in the late 19th century in tribute to the glory of the Kaiser.

There are literally countless original and surprising features which all contribute to make this town uniquely attractive, leaving visitors keen to discover more.
I’d like to discover the European capital

Originally known as “Argentoratum” and later “Strateburgum” (the town at the crossroads), Strasbourg started life along the edge of the Rhine more than 2000 years ago on the site of a Roman camp. It was natural that following the Second World War, Strasbourg’s destiny lay in the creation of the new Europe.

It would certainly be no understatement to describe the “European district” as a genuine town within a town. This includes the Council of Europe, the European Parliament and its majestic glazed façade, the European Court of Human Rights with its leafy terraces, and the headquarters of ARTE, the European television station. All of these contemporary buildings have already become an established part of the city’s history. The names of the streets read like a roll-call of the great names from the history of European integration, including Jean Monnet, Louise Weiss, Winston Churchill and Robert Schuman. All of this makes for an instructive and extremely pleasant stroll along the banks of the Ill near the “Orangerie” park.

Strasbourg also owes its status as a “European capital” to its ideal geographical location. Both a river and a national border, the Rhine separating France and Germany has become a symbol of the closeness between two peoples and of the Europe of tomorrow, thanks to the imaginatively styled footbridge built in 2004. The “Jardin des Deux Rives”, (the first cross-border garden), is sure to delight lovers of both art and gardens. Strasbourg is also the second largest river port in France, where cruise boats and commercial vessels can be seen all year round.
At Christmas time, Strasbourg is an enchanted winter wonderland. Words cannot describe the magical atmosphere to be found in the town at this time of year. A multitude of lights illuminate the streets and the houses are brightly decorated.

You have to experience Strasbourg during the Advent period to appreciate the importance of Christmas in Alsace. The smell of spices and mulled wine drift through the streets of the old town, where the famous Christmas market or “Christkindelsmärik” has been held each year since 1570. The city is marvellously illuminated at nightfall, offering a treat for young and old alike, even in subzero temperatures!

Everyone should spend at least one Christmas in Strasbourg during their life!
Located in the heart of Europe, Strasbourg is easily accessible by road, by plane or by train. Getting around in town is easy too, thanks to the huge choice of available transport methods, including bicycle, tram, bus, mini-tram or even riverboat. But... why not simply go by foot and enjoy a leisurely stroll?

Strasbourg is a city which is neither too big nor too small, and which can be enjoyed on foot, exploring its huge pedestrian area or the banks of the river Ill, so perfect for a relaxing stroll. This is not forgetting the mini-tram which wanders through the narrow streets of the old town, or a romantic trip on a riverboat.

Cyclists will also be spoiled for choice here, with more than 500 km of cycle trails offering bike lovers an opportunity to discover the town on two wheels.

And what about in town? It couldn’t be easier!

by tram...
Six tram lines cross the city from east to west and from north to south with regular departures.

by mini-train...
Enjoy a narrated visit, seated comfortably in the environmentally friendly electric mini-train.

by bicycle or by roller blade...
With more than 500 km of cycle trails, Strasbourg is a paradise for cyclists, who can have fun exploring the canal banks, the parks and gardens, but also the town’s historical pedestrian area.

by riverboat...
Narrated, water-borne guided visits of the town are available all year round, on boats featuring panoramic windows during the winter (open-topped during the summer) and even at night. A not-to-be-missed trip for true romantics.

or on foot...
This is perhaps the best way of all to discover Strasbourg, simply wandering through the pedestrianised streets of the old town or along the banks of the river Ill. There’s much to see!
A town which is neither too big nor too small...

Where walking is a real pleasure...

And where everything you need is close at hand...

A selection of sights to be seen...

- Cathedral
- Kammerzell House
- Petite France
- Covered Bridges
- Landing-stage for trips on the Ill
- Rohan Palace
- Archaeological Museum
- Museum of Decorative Arts
- Fine Arts Museum
- Œuvre Notre-Dame Museum
- Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art
- Zoological Museum
- Botanical Gardens

"German" Quarter:
- Palais du Rhin and place de la République gardens
- Art Nouveau Egyptian House

European institutions:
- Human Rights Building
- Palais de l'Europe
- European Parliament

"Two shores"
- Garden and footbridge

Road access loop to town centre

Pedestrian area
Parking
Bike rental
Tramway
Park-and-ride
Public toilet
Tourist Office

Open every day from 9am to 7pm
Guided visits
Discover the town in a way you would not have imagined. Visit its secret stairways, discover its celebrities, its hidden streets, its cathedral and its mysteries. Perfect for Strasbourg’s residents and tourists alike. Book an English-speaking tour guide with the tourist office.

“Strolling in Strasbourg”
For anyone keen to discover the town’s architecture at first hand, here are six tourist trails covering themes ranging from the Middle Ages to contemporary art. A wealth of information for enthusiasts of all kinds. Available in English.

The “Strasbourg Pass”
Perfect for visiting the town without breaking the bank! The “Strasbourg Pass” gives you three days’ free entry to certain attractions (museums, riverboat, bicycle, the Astronomical Clock, and the visit to the platform of the cathedral) in addition to reductions to help you make the most of your stay in Strasbourg. On sale at the Tourist Office.

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The whole town in your pocket
Just as its name suggests, this small-fold out guide fits snugly in your pocket, and contains all the information you need to visit the town including its main attractions, times, prices, etc. Available in 6 languages. Free of charge.

The audio guided visit
The “go as you please” solution, making it possible for you to discover the cathedral and the old town at any time of year and any time of day. Available in 5 languages. For hire at the Tourist Office.

Accommodation lists
These brochures refer you to the many establishments listed with the Tourist Office.

List of bars and restaurants
From typical winstubs to gourmet restaurants, there’s something here to satisfy all lovers of good food! Available free of charge.

Specialised guides

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“Strasbourg Facile”
Specially designed for persons with reduced mobility, and for the partially or totally blind or deaf, this map offers a shorter, practical tourist trail around the cathedral. Available in French. Free of charge.

The European institutions
One side features a discovery trail to help explore this exciting district with its bold architecture and contemporary or futuristic features. The other side contains information about Europe, including the key dates in its history, its founders, its 27 member states and their flags. This map is designed for anyone keen to discover Strasbourg in its role as a European capital. On sale at the Tourist Office.

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The “Familiciti” guide
This guide features all the information a family might need: activities, events, addresses, check out full of useful tips! Available in 3 languages. Free of charge.

The “Strasbourg Pass”
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The biking map
offering itineraries and visits suitable for everyone, athletes and non-athletes alike. So you won’t miss anything in the city... On sale at the Tourist Office.

And to know everything?
Whatever your needs, the Strasbourg Tourist Office has a wealth of documentation available.

*available on request (please see the previous page for contact information)
Are you planning a long weekend? Don’t hesitate... head for Strasbourg! Spend a day or two discovering the town and you will certainly want to come back for more. And why not devote a day to exploring the Alsace plain, along with its vineyards and picturesque villages, where you can rediscover the nostalgic atmosphere of yesteryear.

And don’t forget of all Alsace is waiting to be discovered...

www.otstrasbourg.fr